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Rob Gibson, MSP Scottish Government Victoria Quay Edinburgh

Please respond to:

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Dear Rob

BERRIEDALE BRAES STUDY

The Dounreay Stakeholder Group were updated on the progress of the Berriedale Braes Feasibility study last month and are disappointed in the time it has taken Transport Scotland to award the contract to allow the work to commence.

We have been informed it is unlikely that the final report will be available until later next year which is extremely disappointing as it was always hoped that the study would be complete by the end of 2013 to allow the project to be 'shovel ready'.

This disappointment has also been expressed at the Caithness Transport Forum and we believe that they will also be writing to you to express their disappointment and concerns.

This letter is to ask you to try to get this project expedited in such as way that the final report can be ready as soon as possible and certainly in time for consideration if funding becomes available in the early part of 2014.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Sent electronically without signature

David Flear DSG Chairman

cc. Caithness Transport Forum John Thurso, MP